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# NEWS BULLETIN AND PRICE LIST

## SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, SPRING, 1943

(LOOK FOR BOOK NEWS ON PAGE 5)

### NUTS MUCH SOONER THAN WE THOUGHT

The early bearing habits of the grafted Chinese Chestnut trees puts a quietus on the idea that nut trees are slow in beginning to bear.

Here are passages from unsolicited letters.

"Red Bank, N. J., Oct. 8, 1941 — On April 17, 1939, we bought two chestnut trees from you which are bearing fruit this year, and we like them very much. We would like to obtain more."

Another customer writes, 9/27/41, Hancock, Md. — "One of my greatest joys was to pick up five chestnuts under your Chinese chestnut tree; a squirrel beat me to three nuts." Those trees were planted in 1941, but were unusually precocious. You may expect our chestnut trees to bear sooner than apples if given as good care as the apple requires.

### THE THRILL OF GATHERING NUTS

I fully understand the thrill of these two middle aged professional men at picking up chestnuts. Ripening chestnuts are beautiful things. It thrills me to walk through the nursery in September and October and see the glossy brown nuts peeping out of opening burrs and to find nice nuts on the ground.

My satisfaction at this has no relation to such earthly matters as eating. Nut trees are fun, as well as food supply.

I gave two seedling trees to one of my suburban neighbors some years ago. Now you would almost think he was a bantam rooster to hear him crowing about the chestnuts he gets. He has a lot of fun giving nuts to his friends. And incidentally he sends his friends to me to buy trees so that they too may join the group of the sentimentally elect.

### ORDER EARLY — ORDER EARLY — ORDER EARLY



It will be to your advantage to order early because (a) in some lines we have but few trees, and it is possible that we may not have the stock to fill later orders. (b) Labor shortage may prevent late orders from being filled. This is no theoretic matter. The nursery is about 50 miles from Washington, and Washington is a mining camp so far as crowding and feverish building of houses are concerned. Contractors are sending trucks out in the country each morning to within a few miles of our place, gathering up all available laborers, hauling them to Washington for a day's work, hauling them back in the evening, and paying more than twice what we can afford to pay. We can't tell when they may strip us. If you send us orders that we can't ship we may have to have the great pain of sending your money back. I hope not. But an early order has very much better chance than a late one.

We suggest that in ordering trees with ball of earth you give an **alternative order** of bare root trees. If we can't ship the first we will ship the second and refund the difference, if there is any.

### EXTRA OFFER FOR EARLY ORDERS

With every order of \$7.50 accompanied by cheque and postmarked not later than March 29th we will include gratis, if requested, one straightline Chestnut seedling 2-3 feet or larger. See orange colored sheet.

If you have to give a definite shipping date, please let it be as far ahead as you can. In the present state of labor and tires we can't think of racing off 7 miles to the station with one or two hurry orders. We will probably make about two station trips a week and a 2 days' rain may hold up tree digging any time for the duration of the rain and a day or two of mud in addition.

### CUTTING BACK

Nut trees have prodigious roots—roots that are long and not fibrous. We have to cut away some of this long root before we send your trees. To plant a tree with only part of its roots and all of its top is to invite early death. Therefore we cut the tops back to establish balance and to help insure the success of transplanting.

### WAXED TRUNKS

We wax the trunk with a special and expensive wax, to reduce evaporation.

### POLLENATION

So far as we know everything that we sell except mulberry has better chance of yielding if it has a partner of same species and different variety to pollenate the blossoms—except that black walnut will pollenate English walnut and filbert will pollenate hazel.



**1 CHINESE CHESTNUTS TO THE FORE.** Each year that I experiment with Chinese Chestnuts my opinion of them rises. Chestnuts are certainly the most productive of all nut trees. They are also the most precocious. Each of the other nut trees has its especial merits but in these two the chestnuts lead. The parent trees from which we propagate are the carefully selected best out of many thousands of seedling trees. They will bear nuts as soon as apple or peach tree bears fruit. Occasionally one bears the year it is set out. What about the quality of the nuts? Well the very conservative Mr. C. A. Reed, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, has said this:

"The best of the Chinese chestnuts are without peers among known chestnuts from any part of the world."

I have been pleased to learn that Chinese chestnut trees from Sunny Ridge have done well at Plattsburg, New York. This is on Lake Champlain, close to the Canadian boundry and North of the Adirondack Mountains, latitude 44 $\frac{3}{4}$  degrees North.

In the spring of 1939 we transplanted some chestnut trees. They were three and four feet high. Now the trees are 6, 7, and 8 feet high with spreading tops. Nearly all bore well in 1942. Very fine trees. Price, bearing trees, bare root, \$3.50; ball of earth, \$6.00. Ask for special lot A.

Another lot of tall, straight, slender Zimmerman were transplanted in 1940. They are 8-10 feet tall, with small, high tops and are in bearing. Price, bare root, \$4.00; with ball of earth, \$6.00. Ask for special lot B.

We are offering four varieties of Chinese chestnuts. We have not yet had time to find out if one is better than another. Zimmerman is the most erect tree.

#### CHINESE CHESTNUT TREES THAT HAVE RIPENED NUTS

If you are in a hurry for nuts you can get chestnut trees that already have ripened some nuts. A number of chestnut trees, 5-6 feet, 6-7 feet, 7-8 feet, 8-9 feet, have matured nuts. These trees have been carefully marked. If you want some of these proved trees add \$1.00 to the list price. If you take it with ball of earth you will have nuts in a hurry.

**2 AMERICAN PERSIMMON.** The flavor of this fruit is unexcelled and those who know it love it. The trees are pleasing features of a lawn and may be expected to do well on all but the higher elevations south of the line Boston—Albany—Buffalo. A tree that holds ripe fruit for a month or six weeks is an interesting and useful citizen of your yard.

If there is any streak of experimentation in you try planting some of these interesting persimmons. The trees are tall and cylindrical in shape.

**Early Golden.** Has ripened fruit some seasons September 20th at Round Hill, Virginia, elevation 1350 ft. There had been no frost.

This variety is one that has been longest in cultivation.

**Kansas.** A native of Kansas, it has survived for years at Williamsburg, Iowa, when apples, peaches and pears froze to death. It is probably our hardiest variety and very prolific.

**Killen,** a native of Delaware. Bill Wiley, our 'possum hunter grafter, says that the fruit is the best of the lot. That's a matter of opinion.

**3 CHINESE PERSIMMONS.** One of the excitements of the year at Sunny Ridge Nursery has been Chinese persimmons grafted in nursery row in 1940 and bearing all the fruit the trees had room for in 1942. In growth habit they resemble pears. Varieties: **Great Wall, Peiping.** Both good, too soon to differentiate, Fruits 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches in diameter.

**4 BUTTERNUTS!** At last a grafted butternut! So far as I know there is not another one for sale in the United States, but I have a few.

**5 HONEY LOCUST.** Eventually the most important thing I ever did may be the introduction of the honey locust as a forage crop. The way the honey locusts clustered themselves with long pods of beans is very suggestive of a great new forage crop and possibly also a commercial sugar crop. (see book Tree Crops). Big, fat sugary pods hung in masses and ripened on test trees



of the two honey locusts that I am offering. They have proved themselves in the Philadelphia climate. If you have a cow let her have a little fun. She likes candy as well as any girl. If you keep livestock in the pasture where these trees grow you will have to get up early in the morning if you expect to find any beans on the ground. They will have been eaten at dawn by the quadrupeds. Varieties: Calhoun and Millwood. No known difference between these two varieties as yet.

These trees are precocious. Some produce beans when 8 feet in height. We have some 8-10 foot trees that can be planted in pastures above the reach of cows and therefore without special protection. Write for special prices for a field planting. Experiments show that pastures with gentle shade produce best.

**6 FILBERTS**—For a long while I turned up my nose at filberts but I had a few trees. At last the handsome way they grow won my attention. Picking up the nuts won my affection. Eating them confirmed it, and now I'm an enthusiast starting a test orchard and selling the proved standard varieties. Try some. They are intimate yard trees and very good screens.

Barcelona is the heavy bearer and Du Chilly and several others are pollinators. You must have both. Please order Barcelona and pollinator. One pollinator to half a dozen Barcelonas is all right. Two are better. Plant six feet apart for a screen, fifteen to twenty feet apart in the open.

**7 HAZEL NUT.** This is a hardy plant. Very satisfactory to grow and an early bearer. Winkler variety is native to Iowa—very hardy. Filberts will pollenate it, so will wild hazel pollinator. Hazel will not pollenate filbert.

**8 SHAGBARKS.** A sure thing for the north. Don't miss this beautiful tree, unquestionably hardy and with nuts of unrivalled flavor. We sell nine varieties of this interesting species. The parent trees are scattered all the way from the Great Smoky Mountains to Ontario and Wisconsin. Unless you are an experimenter or one who knows a lot about hickories the way to order is to give us your **latitude** and altitude and let us select the varieties. One of the dangers in moving trees is to get them too far north or south of the home of the parent tree. Trees have a **light rhythm**, (length of day). It is deep set in their bones.

**9 PECANS.** Tell us your latitude and altitude and let us select from our half dozen varieties.

**10 BLACK WALNUT.** Thomas and Stambaugh, heavy yielders, Stabler, the beautiful lawn tree: "Fasterite, native of Ithaca, N. Y. The tree for the north.

**11 ENGLISH WALNUT.** Wiltz Mayette, the old standard.

**12 YEW TREES.** We have some low spreading Japanese Yew, also tall ones, excellent for hedge or individual planting. If interested, write for prices.

**13 DWARF ENGLISH BOX.** We have a few nice healthy plants, 18 inches to 2 feet across. Write for prices.

**14 CHINQUAPIN.** This bush form of blight resistant native chestnut is living on in spite of the blight. The nuts are small but are the sweetest of all chestnuts. Very productive.

### Get Our Special Tree List

As company for my old age I am building up a collection of varieties of Shagbarks and hickory hybrids on my Blue Ridge mountainside. I now have about 70 varieties. They are interesting company. My human friends get busy, they get old and bald, they go to the great beyond. The trees keep green and grow greater and more fruitful as the years roll by—very interesting company.

**LARGE SIZED CHESTNUTS, WALNUTS, PECANS, SHAGBARKS, PERSIMMONS**

The special tree list gives trees by number and they are all sold with ball of earth. This list contains some trees not obtainable elsewhere. Many are bearing trees.



# PRICE LIST FOR NUT TREES

SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, SWARTHMORE, PA.

The Nursery is at Round Hill, Va., but the sales office is at Swarthmore, Pa.

This price list cancels all previous lists and will be cancelled Oct. 20, 1943.

All trees are grafted unless otherwise specified. Will be shipped by express, bare root and properly cut back unless some other arrangement is agreed upon.

Prices F. O. B. Railway Express or Freight office, Purcellville, Va. Please be sure to give correct shipping address. We do hate to send a tree to the wrong place.

Terms: Cash with order.

Trees with ball of earth should go by railway freight. If persons must have parcel post shipments we let them pay postage via C. O. D. (C. O. D. for the postage). Parcel post packages have to be small, sometimes undesirably small.

**HALF DOZEN SOLD FOR THE PRICE OF FIVE SINGLE TREES.**

**THIS RATE DOES NOT APPLY TO LESS THAN THREE TREES OF ONE VARIETY AND SIZE IN AN ORDER TOTALING SIX TREES OR MORE.**

NOTE—A variety is shown by name, thus, Wiltz Mayette English Walnut, Carr Chestnut, etc.

	1-2 ft. Ea.	2-3 ft. Ea.	3-4 ft. Ea.	4-5 ft. Ea.	5-6 ft. Ea.	6-7 ft. Ea.	7-8 ft. Ea.	8-10 ft. Ea.	10-12 ft. Ea.
Chinese Chestnut (Grafted) †									
Zimmerman, Carr, Connecticut									
Yankee, Hobson .....			\$2.00	\$2.25	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$3.75	\$4.50
Chinquapin Seedling .....		.60							
Black Walnut **									
(Thomas, Stabler, Tasterite,						*	*	*	
Stambaugh) .....		1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.00	5.00
Northern Pecan*									
(Busseron, Green-river,									
Indiana, Major) .....		3.00	3.25	3.75	4.25	4.50		6.50	7.50
PECAN x HICKORY HYBRID—									
HICCAN									
Burlington, Des Moines (rival									
of Burlington) Gerardi and									
Bixby, new ones .....			3.25	3.75	4.25	4.50	5.00	6.50	
Hybrid Hickory†									
Stratford and Fairbanks ....		2.25	2.75	3.00	3.25	3.75			
Pure Shagbark (Grafted) .....		3.00	3.25	3.50	3.75	4.00	4.50		
English Walnut (Grafted)									
Wiltz Mayette .....		2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00				
American Persimmon									
(Grafted) Early Golden,									
Killen, Kansas .....			2.00	2.25	2.50	3.00			
Chinese Persimmon									
Great Wall, Peiping .....			2.25	2.50					
Honey Locust (Grafted)† Thornless									
Calhoun and Milwood .....		.75	1.00	1.25	1.40	1.50	1.65	2.00	
Honey Locust Seedlings									
(For your own grafting.									
Transplanted .....			.35						
Butternut (Grafted) .....		4.00							
Mulberry—Everbearing .....			.80	.90	1.00	1.10	1.25		
Filberts—Barcelona, Du Chilly									
(pollenator) .....		1.00	1.25	1.50					
Hazel Nuts—Winkler .....		1.00							
Wild pollenator .....	.30								
Pawpaw Seedlings .....	1.00	1.25							

\* If interested in a beautiful shade tree try a big pecan. Write for special tree list.

\*\* Specimen Black Walnuts to ornament your yard at once and bear nuts soon.

Get our special tree list.

† Special price on honey locust and grafted chestnut in quantity.

\* Thomas and Stabler only.





## OUR TREES ARE FOR THE NORTH

The rubber industry of the Far East is derived from the seed of Brazilian rubber trees grown in the greenhouses of Kew Gardens, London. The Kew trees were raised from seed carried from Brazil by Sir Clements Markham.

By a similar process, we are raising northern trees in the northernmost corner of Virginia and expect them to do well in Massachusetts and Michigan. Here is the way we do it.

We use walnut roots from Minnesota, on these we graft the Tasterite walnut which grows on the cold plateau near Ithaca, New York. This is our Fartherest North Walnut.

The cions of shagbark trees from Minnesota, from Michigan, and from Ontario, are grafted on the roots of young trees grown from Quebec nuts. Persimmon seed from Northern Missouri and Kansas are grafted with cions of persimmons that have done well in Iowa. The seed for our grafted chestnut stocks has been imported from Tientsin, in North China. Our Chinese persimmons were imported personally from the extreme northern range of Chinese persimmons.

I have seen snow two feet deep at Sunny Ridge Nursery, and I have experienced temperatures of 30° below zero in that neighborhood.

### BALL OF EARTH

I strongly recommend that you let us ship large sized trees, by railway freight with ball of earth (balled and burlapped). You will be surprised to see how reasonable the freight rates are. Your local railway can give you exact rate to your station. Present rates per 100 pounds, from Purcellville, Va., to:

Philadelphia, Pa., 60¢; Boston, Mass., 90¢; Buffalo, N. Y., 95¢; New York City, 75¢; Pittsburgh, Pa., 81¢; Chicago, Ill., \$1.19; Cincinnati, Ohio, 99¢; Albany, N. Y., 90¢. It is difficult to tell in advance what the ball of earth with trees of different sizes will weigh. For a rough basis we suggest that you figure as follows: Under 6 feet, 75-100 lbs.; 6-8 feet, 150-250 lbs.; 8-10 feet, 250-300 lbs.; 10-12 feet, 350-500 lbs. Sometimes they will exceed these weights.

Planting with ball of earth is the quick way to get a nut tree started. It can start to growing the first year and you save two years' time. I did it with my 50 acres of Pecans—trucking the trees fifteen miles. A few years ago I put 40 balled and burlapped hickories out in a bluegrass sheep pasture. They all lived but one. Let us send yours that way.

Trees will be prepared with ball of earth carefully burlapped and put on train for \$2.00 extra per tree for trees under 6 ft.; \$2.50 for trees 6-8 ft.; \$3.50, 8-10 ft.; \$4.50, 10-12 ft.

**EARLY PLANTING.** It is desirable to plant trees early. The tree cannot start growth until it has got earth settled closely against its roots. It can then draw moisture and nutrients and begin business. (See our booklet on planting.)

### NORTHERN NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

You probably will want to join. George L. State, Secretary, Geneva, N. Y.

This is a varied collection of interesting people (doctors, lawyers, merchants, manufacturers, professors, farmers, spinsters) who have nut trees for avocation—annual meeting an unusual summer vacation event.

## Reading Guides For The Owner Of Nut Trees

### 1. THE PLANTING, FERTILIZATION, & CARE OF NUT TREES AND PERSIMMONS by J. Russell Smith, ScD, postpaid 25¢.

Don't buy good trees and then kill them by misguided care. This booklet will save you many times its cost and increase the results for all but the most skillful.



## 2. HOW TO GRAFT NUT TREES. Postpaid 25¢.

The real fun is to graft your own nut trees. It is not especially difficult but it does require special technique. This illustrated booklet tells just how to do it.

This booklet is Appendix F of the book *Tree Crops*. So you don't need both unless you want the booklet to carry around with you.

## Reading for Those Who Love the Land and Want To Know Their Country and Its Resources and Prospects

### 1. TREE CROPS, A PERMANENT AGRICULTURE,

by J. Russell Smith, ScD.

This book is 300 pages of pleasure to the person who loves trees or loves the earth or who likes to hear about things he never thought of before.

If you have a streak of ingenuity you will like this book. It tells how we are on the road to a whole new series of crops that grow on trees instead of on straw. Don't you want to have a hand in this new thing? The tree is nature's real engine of production and this book tells about some of them—Pecans, Persimmons, Hickories, Hybrids, Black Walnuts, English Walnuts, Honey Locust (cowfeed), Acorn bread and other things that are just over the hill waiting to come into your yard.

If you have a constructive imagination this book is likely to cause you to start something.

This book has been favorably reviewed by the Imperial Institute in London and from one end of the U. S. to the other.

A remarkably helpful and interesting book.—San Antonio Express.

This book is a thriller.—Bee, Sacramento, California.

This book for persons of special interest has been out of print for months. The commercial publisher, who works for profit, will not re-issue it. It happens that I wrote the book to spread an idea and so I have had a special printing made for the small but persistent demand of the people who want a better America.

Printing of small numbers is expensive, so our price has to be \$3.50 postpaid in United States or Canada. This is less than the commercial publisher asked.

The late Louis Brandeis read this book aloud to his wife when they were near 80 years old. Judges and others give it as presents to their friends.

**2. NORTH AMERICA, THE CONTINENT AND ITS RESOURCES AS THE HOME OF MAN**, by J. Russell Smith and M. Odgen Phillips, 1021 pages, \$4.75 postpaid, a study of the continent by producing regions such as Corn Belt, Cotton Belt, Southern California, the West Indies, the Plateau of Mexico, etc.

Used as an economic guide book by Educated Europeans. Put one in your automobile. It is a standard book without a rival in its field. It is **readable**.

Keep either book three days and if you do not like it send it back. Your money will be promptly refunded.

**Address And Make Checks Payable To  
SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, SWARTHMORE, PA.**

Do not telephone Swarthmore about trees. Do not call there about trees. It is a strictly mail order office. The trees are far away on the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia. Your letters will receive prompt attention, so will your orders.



